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Daily Eastern News: February 27, 1997

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INSIDE Vegged out

Meat-less options to everyday
eating in Charleston

PAGE 7

The
Daily

THURSDAY
February 27, 1997

Eastern News

Eastern Illinois University
Charleston, Ill. 61920
Vol. 82, No. 108
12 pages

"Tell the truth and don't be afraid"

Trouble times 5



Five Tennessee
Tech players
reached
double-figures
in Tuesday's
Panther loss.

PAGE
12

Eastern hopes to help out the undecided

By JESSICA BAKER
Administration editor

At the close of fall semester, Eastern had a total of 843 undecided majors on campus compared to 1,373 undecided majors in 1996, according to Mary Kelm, director of the Academic Assistance Center.

Of the 843 undecided majors, 588 are freshman, 177 are sophomores, 57 are juniors and 21 are seniors.

Charles Evans, chair of the University College task force, said for the fall of 1997, 1,392 freshman students who have been admitted to Eastern are undecided majors and 90 transfer students also are undecided.

"This is a substantial number of people who haven't declared their major," Evans said. "The concern with the University College was that the students with undecided majors get appropriate counseling to help them make appropriate choices."

Evans said he is sending a letter to the 1,392 undecided students to let them know that it isn't a tragedy not to have a major.

"I want them to know that the national average is to change their major at least five times," he said. "I think it is good for students to take three semesters to make a decision on what they want to major in."

Evans said the University College should help the number of undecided majors decrease.

John Allison, professor of English, said over the past decade Eastern has shown remarkable

See UNDECIDED page 2

Campus under the weather

By SCOTT BOEHMER
Campus editor

Eastern may receive more rain this weekend, adding to more than an inch that fell Wednesday.

Richard Wise, an assistant professor of geology, said about 1.2 inches of rain had fallen as of 5:30 p.m. Wednesday. In addition, he said more rain may be on the way if thunderstorms hit the area.

Wise said Wednesday's moisture was brought in by warm air from the south. Weather in the 50s is expected through the weekend, in addition to the possibility of more rain Saturday or Sunday.

Although there is not much danger of flooding in the Charleston area, Wise said there were some puddles in sidewalks caused by old and sunken walkways.

Matt Stepansky, a senior environmental biology major, said he observed a mini waterfall caused by the rain at the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Both Stepansky and Tom Rankin, a freshman pre-engineering major, said the puddles and rain were an inconvenience while walking to classes.

"It's tough because I have to walk from the stadium (lot) about every day," said Rankin. "I got soaked this morning."

Both Stepansky and Rankin also said they would prefer to see snow or colder weather than the rain. However, Amy Johnson, a sophomore marketing major, did not agree.

"Even walking around in the rain is not bad," Johnson said. "It's not like a blizzard - if you stay outside you're going to freeze."

She said the weather provides "a good book-reading, tea-drinking day."

Wise said that although Charleston has already surpassed



IBE MASAYUKI/Staff photographer

Susan Shreder, a senior speech communication major, walks down a sidewalk in the rainy weather Wednesday afternoon on the way back from the Booth Library near the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

the 2 inches of rain it typically receives in February, mild winter weather may be in the future.

"We're moving into spring," Wise said. "We can still get snow in March, but typically it doesn't last too long."

Nothing new about doubling up

Scientists have successfully cloned frogs for years

By SARAH DRURY
Staff writer

The sheep is out of the barn.

Since the existence of Dolly, the cloned sheep, and her identical sisters was revealed earlier this week, worldwide discussion has begun on the feasibility and ethics of cloning and whether human cloning could become a reality.

While replication of adult mammals is a previously undocumented procedure, cloning itself is not a new technique, as Eastern zoology professors point out.

Very early in the development of an embryo, the cells can be separated by natural or laboratory processes, and two or more identical individuals develop, said Gary Fritz, an assistant professor of zoology who teaches genetics. "They are called twins."

"(Creating clones at the embryonic stage) is old stuff, but it is cloning," he said. "This only difference is that (in sheep) you are cloning the adult individual, not just its offspring."

"Plant geneticists have been pursuing this for a long time," Fritz said. "It's called tissue culture."

The process has to be worked out for each organism individually, Fritz said. And with each new organism comes a whole new set of difficulties.

"The only difference is that someone has now been successful with adult mammals," he

said.

According to Gary Wong, an assistant professor of zoology, cloning frogs is a relatively simple procedure.

"You take a frog egg and remove the nucleus," Wong said. "And then you reinsert a nucleus from an adult frog."

Typically the nucleus is taken from a cell that divides easily.

"The embryo develops normally and creates a genetically identical frog," Wong said.

Frog cloning has existed since 1962 when John Gurdon performed the first successful cloning of an adult frog. Only 10 out of his 726 embryos successfully grew into adult frog clones.

The Scottish group's sheep results prove to be similarly promising.

Like other types of animal and plant cloning, the process that created Dolly may not be extremely difficult, but it is "laborious," Fritz said.

Thousands of cells are micro-injected with new nuclei in the hopes that one will "take" and function normally, he said.

"The difficult part was getting it to work in the first place," Fritz said.

Creation of genetic clones has been speculated to have promising uses in development of superior livestock and testing drugs or fertilizers in laboratory experiments.

And as for human cloning, it is most likely

See DOUBLING page 2



IBE MASAYUKI/Staff photographer

Comin' at you

Seth Berry, sophomore theatre art major, cuts the edge of a woodboard Wednesday afternoon to make a foreboard for the next show in the Fine Arts Building.

Speaker to focus on African Americans' political history and how to get involved

By CHRISTINA HIGBY
Staff writer

A closer look at the political history of African Americans in the United States will be the focus of a lecture tonight.

Annette Samuels, an assistant professor of journalism, will speak at 7 p.m. in the Effingham Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Samuels' speech will have a "strong educational component," said Ceci Brinker, assistant director of student life and multicultural affairs.

Students can receive advice on how to get involved in poli-



Annette Samuels

tics and what politics in America is like. Samuels said she worked as the assistant press secretary in the Carter administration from 1979 to 1981, worked for the governor of New York from 1977 to 1979 and worked for the mayor of the District of Columbia from 1981 to 1987.

She has been involved in poli-

tics for over 30 years.

Samuels said her 30 years of experience has given her a good sense of where the United States is in politics.

She said she "brings a national and local perspective to politics in our country to the students."

"(The speech) brings in a different perspective aside from mainstream politics and women in politics," Brinker said.

Admission to the speech is free and is open to the campus and community.

The speech is sponsored by the African American Heritage Committee.

UNDECIDED

from page one

decrease in its undecided majors.

"I wouldn't want to reverse that trend," Allison said. "From the beginning, when I was on (Faculty Senate), I supported consolidating services to cut costs, but I'm still not convinced Eastern needs a new college."

"I think the best way a freshman can be served is to provide enhanced advisement and then assign them to a department major once they declare a major," Allison said.

"Why do we need a University College?"

Student Senate member Jackie McGrath said the University College could help more than just students with undecided majors.

"A good portion of the proposed college should be good for those students who are undecided as well as for students who have declared their major, but are waiting to get into their departments," she said.

Evans said students who are currently in a department and then become undecided can go to the University College to get help from counselors to decide what he or she wants to do.

"Usually the counselors will test the students to assess their interests and try to match their interests with their performances in courses they have taken," Evans said.

Kelm said the University College is important because of the services offered.

"It is a good consolidation of services because some students don't know where to go if they need information on undecided majors," Kelm said.

"This will hopefully be helpful to have a place

on campus where they can begin to decide what they want to do."

She said she wants people to know that the Academic Assessment Center doesn't just carry undecided majors.

"We also carry pre-business and pre-education majors who haven't been admitted to those colleges because of the number of hours they have taken or the grade point average they have," Kelm said. "This can sometimes be a misconception."

Kelm said currently the center carries 3,300 students.

Last Thursday, the University College task force met for the last time to vote on its final report on the proposed college, which was submitted to acting Provost Terry Weidner for final approval.

"I don't want to comment on the report until (Weidner) is ready to release the information," Evans said. "It isn't appropriate to disclose it before he has had a chance to look at it."

Evans said the final draft on the University College was for the task force to receive opinions from the Council on Academic Affairs, the Student Senate and the Faculty Senate.

"The task force reviewed the committee's opinions on the college, and then we considered our thought on it and reacted to it and sent it to (Weidner)," he said.

Evans said Weidner may react to the final report quickly.

Both Weidner and Eastern President David Jorns have the final say on the University College.

DOUBLING

from page one

not going to be a reality, Fritz said.

"Until recently, it was illegal to experiment on human embryos," he said.

Laws about egg possession and rights still exist - a woman's

eggs belong to her and consequently she has complete decisive rights as to how they are used.

President Clinton has asked the White House Bioethics Committee to investigate the implications of this research.

In the United Kingdom, where this research was developed, the Embryology and Fertilization Act of 1990 makes it illegal to do in human embryos what was done with sheep embryos.

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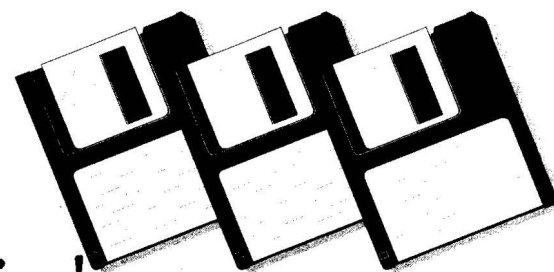
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Senate supports sorority

Group gives unanimous approval for Phi Sigs

By MATT ADRIAN
Staff writer

The Student Senate Wednesday unanimously gave its support to allow Eastern's chapter of the Phi Sigma Sigma sorority to remain on campus.

The sorority was notified Sunday by its national headquarters that its charter may be revoked. The national headquarters is giving the sorority 15 days to make an appeal to the National Supreme Council.

Kelly Brown, the president-elect of Phi Sigma Sigma, said the only reason the national headquarters gave for revoking the sorority's charter is a lack of members in comparison to other sororities on Eastern's campus.

Senate member and Interfraternity Council President Jason Amato said he supported the resolution because members of the sorority are heavily involved on campus and in philanthropic activities. He also said if a new sorority is added to Eastern's campus, all the sororities will see a downfall in membership.

"I think over time, (Eastern) will see all sorority numbers

what is the Student Senate?

The Student Senate is a body of elected students who represent all of Eastern's students, ensuring that the university treats them fairly and addresses their issues.

The senate members and the Student Government executive board are responsible for taking stands on student-related issues and for controlling how student activity fees are spent.

will decrease," Amato said.

Brown said the national headquarters has no specific quota for membership requirements to be met by the sorority. Currently, the sorority has 47 members, but after graduation the sorority will have 35 members, Brown said.

The low membership going into the fall semester may be the reason the national headquarters wants to take away the charter, she said.

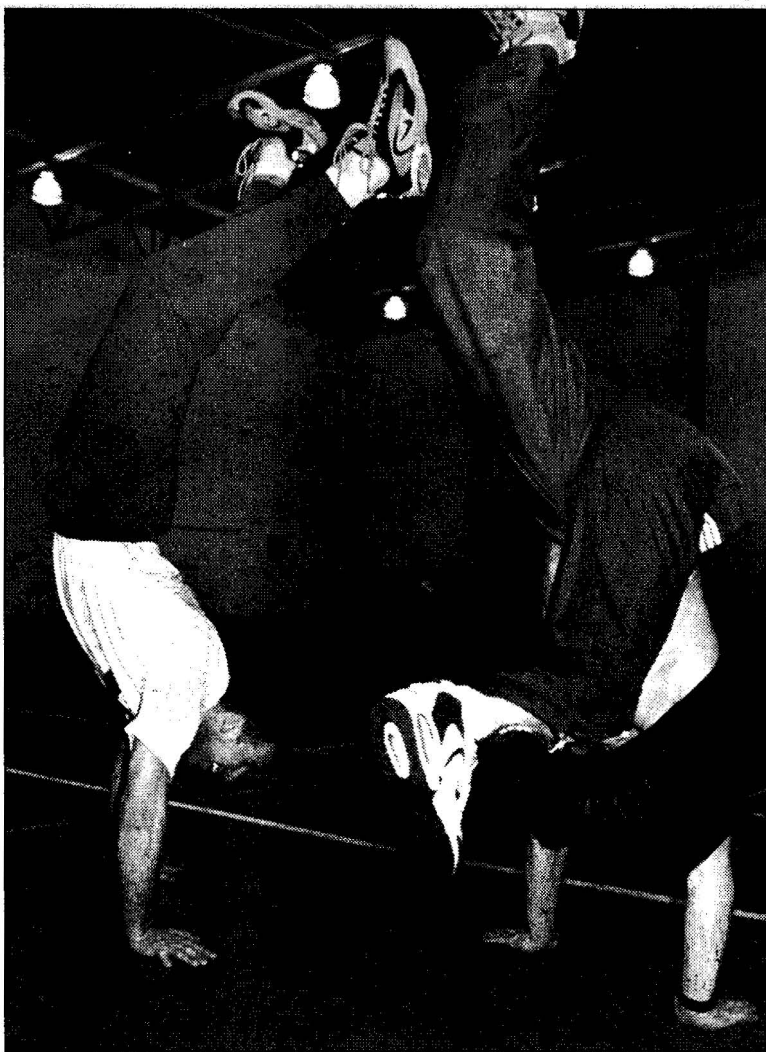
The resolution will be sent to members of the High Council across the United States, and the members of the council will vote by fax machine, Brown said.

The senate also approved by a 20-1-7 vote a resolution stating the senate's reservations about the possibility of the study abroad program being required for all honors students.

Senate member Colette Guerdet voted against the resolution because she said the senate was not informed enough to vote on the issue. She said the senate should hold off on making any kind of recommendation until there is a more concrete plan from the administration.

The senate also approved an amendment to the restructuring of the senate committees. The amendment would put three non-senate members on the tuition and fee review committee. The committee would be made up of four senate members and three non-student senate members, a faculty representative and a staff representative. The student members would be appointed by the Senate Speaker and approved by the senate. The restructuring resolution as a whole was tabled.

The senate unanimously approved a bylaw change requiring the senate to approve all expenditures over \$10.



IKUYA KURATA/Staff photographer

How's the view?

Michael Quinlan (left), a senior marketing major, and Scott Davidson, a freshman physical education major, perform handstands to practice for pole vaulting Wednesday afternoon in the Lantz Building.

Election turnout for primary lower than in previous years

Voter turnout in Tuesday's primary elections for the Charleston City Council was around 20.5 percent, which is lower than in years past.

This amount has decreased from four years ago when Charleston had a 30-per-

cent voter turnout, said Coles County Clerk and Recorder Betty Cofrin.

The primary elections Tuesday narrowed the candidates for the Charleston City Council from 11 candidates to eight candidates.

Cofrin said she cannot guess how many registered voters will come to the polls on April 1 during the elections. She said ballots are made for anyone who is old enough to vote in Coles County.

"(We) hope for more, but we don't

speculate because we have to be prepared for a 100 percent turnout," Cofrin said.

The Municipal Elections will be held on April 1 for the four open positions on the Charleston City Council.

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Opinion page

Editorials are the opinion of the Editorial Board.
Columns are the opinion of the author.

Thursday, February 27, 1997

PAGE 4

University Board's priorities fall short of students' needs

The University Board has signed Aretha Franklin for the Family Weekend concert in October. The concert is eight months away.

Eight weeks from now the weekend slated for the Spring Concert will arrive, and the UB is offering little else but a shrug and a possible announcement within a week or a week and a half of who the long-awaited performer will be.

Editorial

Officially, only two people at Eastern have any insight regarding what band will headline the show, or if there even is a band yet. Concert Coordinator Edie Stump and David Milberg, director of student life and adviser to the UB, so far are the only ones who know who will be performing on the weekend of April 25.

Stump said she sent bids to three choices for the Spring Concert, but will not release the names of the acts.

Stump and Milberg have chosen to keep the concert a secret to the entire campus, including UB Chair Tom Ryan. Ryan's role as the chair is to supervise all parts of the UB. Theoretically, Milberg serves the UB only in an advisory capacity.

Although he regards the situation as "odd," Ryan said he does not mind the secrecy. He said he wants to respect Stump's desire to stifle any rumors.

It seems members of the UB can't trust their leader. It seems Ryan isn't going his job of making sure one of Eastern's biggest concerts is a success.

Last year the UB announced the BoDeans as the Spring Concert act after weeks of names such as the Violent Femmes and Melissa Etheridge had been announced as possible Spring Concert candidates. For many students, the announcement of the BoDeans was a disappointment.

The popularity of Aretha Franklin undoubtedly will draw droves of ticket buyers next semester, and the announcement of the Family Weekend concert has already begun stirring up excitement around campus.

But with eight weeks until the Spring Concert, students still have no more than a tentative date and a few unfounded rumors to look forward to.

The UB needs to keep its priorities straight.

And the UB needs to do its job by offering students quality entertainment, something that has been lacking for some time.

“today's

To most people nothing is more troublesome than the effort of thinking.

—James Bryce

A few pageant attendees diminish diversity

As 1996 Miss Black EIU and this year's pageant coordinator, this column is written with the intent to unveil the blatant ignorance displayed by certain individuals who attended the 21st annual Miss Black EIU Pageant.

The theme for this year's pageant, "Embracing the Legacy of Elegance and Excellence," was embodied by the contestants as well as the entertainment.

For those 500-plus in attendance at the pageant, it was an evening of entertainment and competition. Faculty, family and friends eagerly awaited the crowning of our 1997 Miss Black EIU Tawanda Lawrence.

This night should have been an exciting event for ALL to enjoy. Unfortunately, this was not the case.

Every year, the Miss Black EIU Pageant features entertainment segments between the contestant categories. A few spectators took it upon themselves to "judge" the entertainment.

After the talent category, a group of lighter-complected dancers took the stage. To their dismay, comments of rude content were whispered and some spoken loudly. After their performance, the dancers fled the ballroom despondent.

Reportedly, the judgmental bunch did not stop there but continued to whisper and make comments about each of the acts to follow. The comments of a few rude individuals cast a shadow on the otherwise spectacular event.

As the coordinator, I witnessed the hard work and dedication that each of the four contestants displayed during the 5-month period of preparation for this event. Ten committees graciously volunteered their talents and abilities to ensure the viewers would get their money's worth and learn from the experience.

One such individual was Shalanda Hedrick. Shalanda served as the public relations chairperson for this year's pageant. Her labor was not in vain. She worked hard to make this an event everyone could enjoy. However, the hecklers in the crowd didn't seem to care about that.



SHAMECO MOORE
Guest columnist

"The comments of a few rude individuals cast a shadow on the otherwise spectacular event."

They wanted to ... I don't know what they were thinking. I can't speak for them. However, it stands to be self evident that had the tables been reversed, there would have been nothing short of a riot. Where is our respect for diversity? Who wants to live in a bland world where everyone is exactly the same?

We gathered in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union Grand Ballroom, which is dedi-

cated to a man who won a Nobel Peace Prize. I am sad to say that his dream of unity that has been embraced by generations and continues to live on as a legacy was disrupted Saturday night. Nevertheless, we should be determined now more than ever to continue to believe in the dream of this great man.

As a contestant of the 1996 Miss Black EIU Pageant, my impromptu questions was "If given the power to improve race relations on Eastern's campus, what would you do?" My response was, "If given the power to improve race relations on Eastern's campus, I would want the races to unite, realizing that we are all different and we can learn from one another."

We can learn from one another, but only if we allow our differences to become a cause for celebration rather than that of isolation. Wake up people and live the dream to its full meaning — for the effects of changed hearts and mind sets lead to positive changes on our campus, in our nation and in our world. This change can only begin with, as Michael Jackson stated, "the man in the mirror."

I extend a heartfelt apology to the EIU Dancers for their most unpleasant evening. Last Saturday night, as each of the EIU Dancers took the stage in the ballroom, they were living the dream. Now it's up to each one of us to make certain it continues.

—Shameco Moore is the 1996 Miss Black EIU and a guest columnist for The Daily Eastern News.



Columnist promotes racial division through display of his attitude

Dear editor:

The Feb. 11 column by Greg Pipkin is as irresponsible as it is absurd. Not only does the author condone premeditated, brutal murder several times throughout the piece, he also promotes racial division by displaying his blacks versus white system attitude. Columns like this are a liability to the papers with which they are affiliated.

Anyone with a tiny speck of common sense knows that no possible justification exists for committing a heinous crime such as this. Even if one did, you certainly can't say that pure rage and jealousy qualify. I sincerely doubt that Simpson did this to take on the so-called white judicial system. Yet that is exactly what Pipkin is trying to turn this in to. He thinks we should make the oppressions against blacks right by letting cold-blooded killers who happen to be black walk the already dangerous

your turn

streets freely. He, as well as many others, must realize that social injustice cannot be fought by advocating more social injustice.

I find it ironic that the column complaining of "a racial division in the United States" is the same column glorifying the first Simpson trial as an "us against them." Mr. Pipkin, do more innocent whites, much like Nicole Brown Simpson and Ron Goldman, have to be purposely killed, be wrongfully convicted, or receive some other form of oppression to even the score?

Speaking of score, maybe you can set up a system of actions and point values. Maybe framing a black man for murder could be worth two million points for the white side. How about awarding one point to the black side every time a white man is convicted of a felony (since blacks only get one point at a time by your system, unfortunately)?

When you write about the social

injustice contest in this manner, you're not only promoting blacks against the white system. You're promoting blacks versus whites. So, how can you possibly write against racial division? Or, could it be that you included the division issue as a positive thing from your point of view?

I truly believe that your column will carry consequence. Whatever credibility carried by the *Minority Today* and *The Daily Eastern News* will be significantly lowered. As for you, Mr. Pipkin, everything that surrounds your picture in *The News* will receive little to no respect from the vast majority of readers. Your face will most likely serve as a reminder of this morbid, disturbing filth you just wrote.

Nobody knows the answer to racial injustices. I don't have the key to perfect racial harmony either. However, many of us do know that keeping a careful tally and agreeing with murder for the sake of running up the score are steps in the wrong direction.

Justin Large
junior computer science major

AB to scrutinize budgets

By **CHUCK BURKE**
Staff writer

Now that the Apportionment Board has heard the budget requests of Eastern's five student fee-funded groups, the board will begin to scrutinize, item by item, their proposed expenditures.

The AB will meet at 6 p.m. tonight in the 1895 Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

"What we try to cut is fat," said AB member Matt Frazier. "We don't want to take away anybody's important programming that's going to benefit the student body."

Each Eastern student pays a \$14.50 activity fee each semester, adding up to \$295,000 that the AB has to portion out among the groups. The AB allocates this money to the Student Senate, the University Board, Dramatic

what is the Apportionment Board?

All students pay an activity fee of \$14.50 each semester. The Apportionment Board's job is to allocate it, but the Student Senate gives the final OK.

The money goes to the Student Senate, the Division of Sports and Recreation, the University Board, Dramatic Performances and the Apportionment Board itself, which is made up of students and staff from Eastern.

Performances, the Division of Sports and Recreation and itself.

"We've got to be as fair as we can and be non-biased to each of the groups, and that's going to take a lot of time," Frazier said.

One topic of debate may be the Sports and Recreation's request for

a budget increase of more than \$36,000.

Lisa Vashkelis, chair of the campus recreation board, last week attributed most of that amount to this October's minimum wage increase from \$4.25 an hour to \$5.15.

Sports and Recreation employs students in the Student Recreation Center with jobs ranging from life-guards and aerobics instructors to office workers and receptionists.

In total, Sports and Recreation has requested about \$148,700.

The AB also will review budget requests from each UB committee and a general UB budget request.

Student Body President Jason Anselment cut the senate's budget by almost \$1,500 in his proposal, asking for about \$24,400.

Dramatic Performances has requested about \$11,500 for theater productions.

Voting registration still on

By **BRITT CARSON**
City editor

Charleston residents and Eastern students have until March 3 to register for the April 1 Municipal Elections.

March 3 is also the last day a person can file a change of name or address for voter registration purposes. To qualify to register to vote a person must be a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years of age on or before April 1, a resident of the precinct 30 days on or before April 1 and must show three current forms of identification, one with a current address.

Special hours for registering have been set from 9 a.m. to noon on March 1 at the County Clerk's Office in Charleston and Mattoon.

Voter registration services are available at:

■ County Clerk's Office in the Coles County

Courthouse in Charleston.

■ Mattoon City Clerk's Office at 208 N. 19th St. in Mattoon.

■ Oakland City Clerk's Office in City Hall on Main Street in Oakland.

■ Charleston Public Library at 712 Sixth St. in Charleston.

■ Mattoon Public Library at 1600 Charleston Ave. in Mattoon.

■ Drivers license facilities in Charleston and Mattoon.

■ Most area banks.

■ Participating precinct committeemen, civic and labor organizations.

People with questions or those who are unable to get to a place of registration can call the County Clerk's Office at 348-0501 in the Charleston area or 258-0501 in the Mattoon area to make special arrangements.

Vendors coming to Black Expo

By **ERIK LARSON**
Staff writer

Local African-American vendors will be selling some items and giving away other items at Friday's Black Expo.

The expo will run from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the University Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Food will be served and a disc jockey will play jazz and rhythm and blues, said Mona Davenport, co-coordinator of the event.

"We sent letters to African

American-owned businesses in the Champaign, Chicago and St. Louis areas and confirmed a table for them to come down to display their stuff so that people can purchase their stuff," Davenport said.

About 10 to 15 vendors will have displays, Davenport said.

Black student organizations also will display items with the products on sale, Davenport said.

Yolanda Williams, co-coordinator of the event, said many of the vendors will sell items, such as cosmetics and art, that are not

available in Charleston.

This is the first time a Black Expo has been held at Eastern.

"The purpose of the expo is to give people awareness of African American Heritage Month and people should gain knowledge from attending," Davenport said.

"Lender's Bagels and other area sponsors have been very good to us by giving us coupons," Davenport said. "We hope it just gets larger."

The exhibit is part of African American Heritage Month.

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1997

Spring Sports Guide

Thursday March 6

Don't miss out on seeing your logo around the spring sports schedule this semester.

Advertise in both sections of the Daily Eastern News on March 6th and reserve a spot for your logo and phone number. It's a way to show your support while receiving a great deal.

For more information call 581-2812

RHA to discuss new channel

Housing office negotiating contract with TCI

By KRISTOPHER JONES
Staff writer

The Residence Hall Association Thursday will discuss adding a premium channel to the residence halls in the fall semester of 1997.

The RHA will meet at 5 p.m. in the lobby of Weller Hall.

Graig Eichler, housing director of Lawson Hall, will give surveys to RHA members to take to their respective hall councils. The survey will ask students to indicate which premium channel the students would like added to their cable lineup.

RHA members must return the surveys to the RHA by March 13.

The housing office is negotiating a contract with TCI Cablevision to add one of the four premium channels.

The housing office is looking to add either HBO, The Movie Channel, Showtime or Disney Channel.

"I would like to see Showtime added to the residence halls because we don't have it and I feel it's a good station," said Dave Jagodzinski, Carman Hall resident. "We need some good, current movies in the residence halls."

In addition to adding one of the premium channels, residence halls also would receive Starz!, Encore and Monthly Guide. These channels currently are offered at any of the residence halls.

"Personally, I really don't need any more channels than what we already have, but if they are going to go ahead and do it anyway I would like to have The Movie Channel," said Erin Phelps, a sophomore Andrews Hall resident.

The RHA also will finalize the plans of the upcoming RHA retreat. RHA members have suggested holding the retreat at Fox Ridge State Park or hosting a ski trip.

Representatives of the Gregg Triad will discuss Coffee Talk, which would be an extended version of the Triad's Snack Attack. Coffee Talk would allow students to drink coffee, read open poetry and listen to live bands or other forms of entertainment in the Triad Dining Service.

"It offers students an alternative to the bars and to students who aren't 21," said Kim Young, a sophomore who lives in McKinney Hall.

"It's got a good location. It's on campus and you're not going to have to trudge off campus to get good entertainment anymore."

Money usage topic of CUPB meeting

By JESSICA BAKER
Administration editor

The Council on University Planning and Budgeting Friday will discuss the concerns members of the council have about how much money the university uses in its operating budget.

The CUPB will meet at 3 p.m. in the Kansas Room in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

"This will be a reporting procedure," said James Tidwell, chair of the executive committee for the council. "Some members

want to have a year-to-year report to see how much money is spent. This is for us to prioritize."

The operating budget covers all costs that are not part of the university's fixed costs, which include faculty and staff salaries, deferred maintenance and technology enhancements.

The council also will look into the five-year, \$8 million telecommunications contract with Consolidated Communications of Mattoon and how it affects departments on campus.

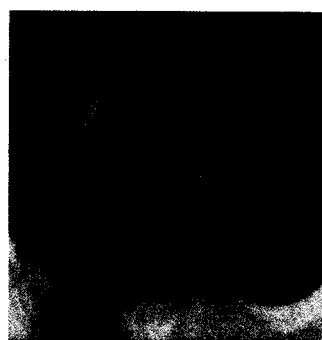
"Some members are concerned

that it might cost more for the department budgets," Tidwell said.

On Nov. 4, the Board of Trustees, Eastern's governing body, approved a contract increasing Eastern's cost for the local-line rate by \$1.08 per month, which adds up to \$10.27 a month for each line.

The contract will take effect July 1. It includes the purchase of local telephone services, long distance service, billing and collecting services and the lease/purchase of equipment.

PLOTKIN'S 20!



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Don't Stop Believin', Roomie!
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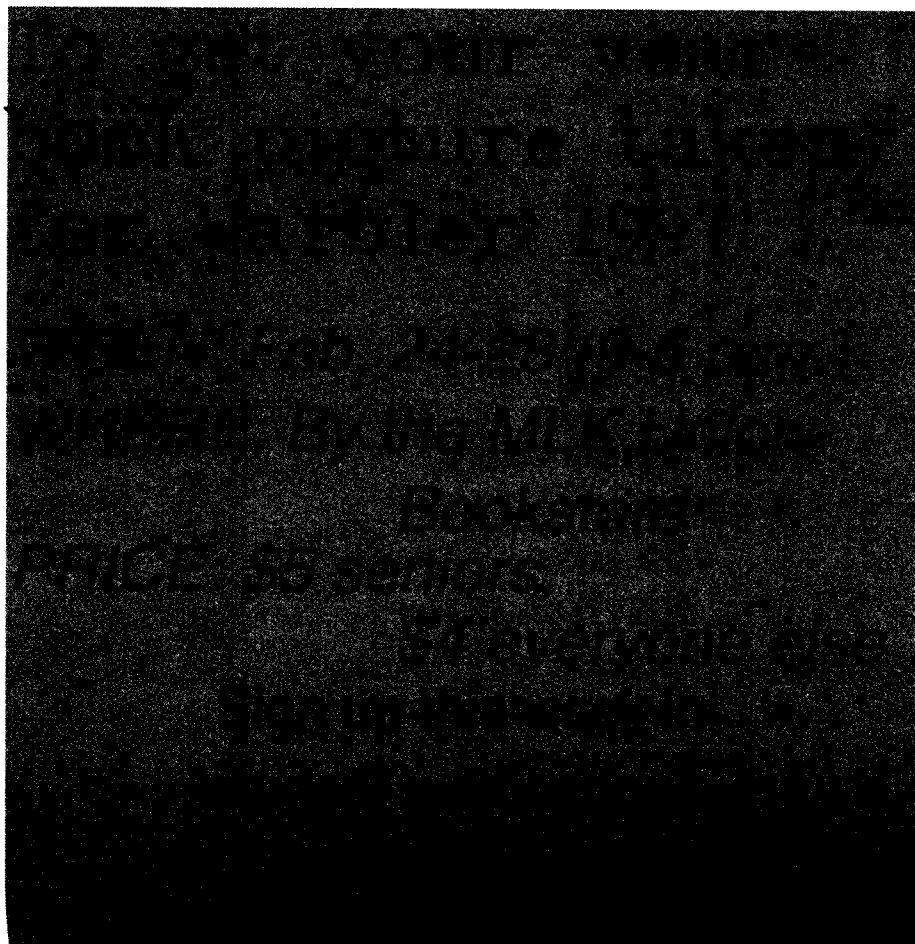
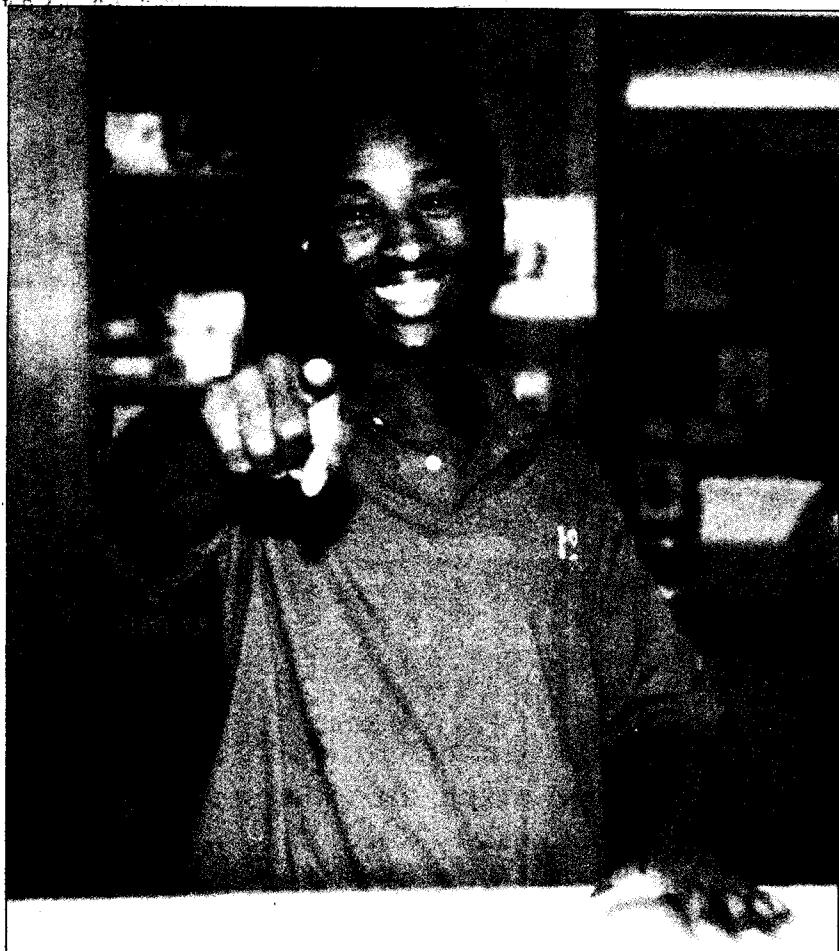
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Carman Hall RA Omar Headen

wants you...



Vegging Out

Story by **Maggie Bieritz**
Illustration by **Mike Rice**

There's more to eat in Charleston than just meat and potatoes.

There was a time when eating a vegetarian diet meant "bunny food", bringing visions of carrot sticks and alfalfa sprouts came to mind. But times have changed. The term "vegetarian" can be very confusing these days, what with the many different types of vegetarians there are.

According to the March issue of Fitness magazine, there are four categories of vegetarians: Semi-vegetarians eat no red meat but have no other restrictions; Lacto-ovo vegetarians do not eat chicken, fish or red meat, but do eat dairy products and eggs; Lacto vegetarians omit eggs as well as chicken, fish and red meat; and Vegans do not eat any animal products at all.

The reasons for converting to meatless eating are many. In a recent issue of Vegetarian Times, 46 percent of those surveyed cited health concerns as their reason for being vegetarian, while 15 percent cited concern for animal welfare. Influence of others was the reason cited by 12 percent of those surveyed, and 5 percent cited ethnic reasons. Concern for the environment and "other reasons" made up the remaining 22 percent.

But whatever the reason behind the change, it has become increasingly easy for vegetarians to find food that meets their

dietary specifications. Most fast food restaurants offer garden salads, and Taco Bell has a Grilled Veggie Fajita Wrap on the menu.

For residence hall dwellers, Dining Services at the Gregg Triad has a vegetarian option at every meal, and when other halls are serving a vegetarian selection it is announced on the Dining Services Menu Hotline at 581-3663 (581-FOOD).

Off campus, meatless options abound. Although deli food usually means pastrami, salami and the rest of the meat family, Charleston has many such establishments that have delicious vegetarian options.

Jimmy John's, 1417 Fourth St., has a vegetarian submarine sandwich made with provolone cheese, avocado, sprouts, lettuce, tomato and mayonnaise. Joey's Sandwich Shop, 405 Lincoln Ave., serves up their vegetarian and cheese sandwich with provolone and American cheeses, fresh lettuce, tomato and mayonnaise.

Schlottzky's Deli, 819 W. Lincoln, makes a great vegetarian sandwich on sourdough bread. Chopped cucumber, tomato, olives, lettuce and cheese are among the ingredients of this sandwich. All of the above are made to order, and are available without cheese for vegans. Schlottzky's also has a vegetarian

pizza on sourdough crust, which is a spicy alternative to a sandwich.

Charleston also has several sit-down restaurants that serve meals ideal for meatless dining. While the Uptowner/Cellar doesn't have an extensive vegetarian menu, server Amanda Winn said the dinner salad is popular with vegetarian customers. Other meatless selections at the Uptowner include potato skins, nachos, stuffed mushrooms and soup.

What's Cookin', 409 Seventh St., serves a lot of vegetarian selections.

"We get a lot of customers who order meatless dishes," said Rose Estrada, a server at What's Cookin'. "Some are students (at Eastern) but many are community members."

Estrada recommended the veggie burger and black bean and rice soup to those who wanted to try something new. She also said the quesadilla, with a mixture of diced onions, green pepper, lettuce, tomato, sour cream and Monterrey Jack and cheddar cheese is popular.

"Our French onion soup is also a favorite," Estrada said. "It's probably the best in town."

Roc's Blackfront, 410 Sixth St., has a grilled vegetable kabob which is served with a dinner salad and potato. The price is \$7.95, but on Tuesdays you can get the kabob special for \$6.95.

Also on the menu at the Blackfront is a veggie pizza with roma and sun-dried tomatoes, green pepper, onion, black and green olives and mushrooms. After 4:30, pasta with marinara sauce is available, served with a salad and garlic breadstick. Carnivores can order this dish with meatballs, if the thought of meatless sauce doesn't tickle your taste buds.

With so many options, "vegging out" in Charleston doesn't have to be the same old thing, night after night. And it's definitely not your usual meat and potatoes.

BAKED POTATOES

POTATOES STUFF TO STUFF THEM WITH

SCRUB POTATOES TO REMOVE ALL DIRT. POKE EACH WITH A FORK SEVERAL TIMES. MICROWAVE ON HIGH FOUR MINUTES PER POTATO. WHEN SOFT TO THE TOUCH, REMOVE FROM MICROWAVE AND WRAP IN A PAPER TOWEL FOR FIVE MINUTES. (POTATO WILL REMAIN HOT FOR 30 MINUTES.)

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- x FLAVORED CREAM CHEESE
- x SOUR CREAM
- x CHOPPED GREEN PEPPER, MUSHROOMS & PARMESAN CHEESE
- x SALSA

Veggie Burritos

- 1 lb. bag frozen corn, broccoli and peppers
- 1 1/2 oz. can spicy chile beans, undrained
- 1 tsp. chile powder
- 8 flour tortillas
- 2 oz. shredded cheddar cheese (optional)

In a large microwave-safe bowl, combine vegetables, beans, chile and chile powder. Microwave on high until heated through, stirring occasionally. Spoon mixture down center of each tortilla. Roll up and eat. Top with cheese. Also delicious served with salsa, sour cream and guacamole.

Dorm Quesadillas

Flour tortillas
Shredded Cheese
Salsa

Cover tortilla with cheese and add salsa to taste. Put on a paper towel and microwave on high 1 1/2 minutes. Fold and eat on the way to class.

PB and C Sandwich Spread

- 1/4 cup peanut butter
- 1 small shredded carrot
- 1 Tbsp. shelled sunflower seeds
- 1 Tbsp. raisins
- 1 tsp. cream cheese

Combine and spread on whole wheat bread. (Perfect for a backpack lunch!)

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5/2
BRIAN'S PLACE NEEDS WAITRESS AND SECURITY. Apply in person. 2100 Broadway Mattoon. 234-4151.

2/27
WANTED: Mature, dependable, personable individuals to serve as Peer Helpers for Fall Semester. Must be in good academic standing. Applications available in the Minority Affairs Office (111 Blair).

3/4
GRADUATE ASSISTANT NEEDED BEGINNING JULY 1, 1997. Must be an MBA student. One year appointment. Applications available at Student Publications Office-Gallery of MLK Union. Any Questions-581-2812, Ask for Betsy.

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Roommates

NEEDED: Female roommate. Call 348-1942

2/28
ROOMMATE NEEDED to share 3 bedroom house in Mattoon. Call 235-9531 ask for Mike, or leave message

2/27
ROOMMATE OR ROOMMATES WANTED to share apt./house for 97-98 school year. Serious students, Male or Female. No Reffer heads. Call between 11:30 p.m. and 8 a.m. 581-3560.

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2/28
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2 SUBLESSORS NEEDED FOR SUMMER 97. 2 Bedroom furnished apartment close to campus. Call 345-4398.

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LARGE 3 BEDROOM FURNISHED APARTMENT IN PARK-PLACE available for Intercession and Summer. Extremely close to campus. 348-7664.

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4 BEDROOM HOUSE 1606 11TH. close to campus. 1-3 Bedroom Apartments. 415 Harrison Ave. 348-5032.

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AVAILABLE FOR 97-98-One bedroom furnished apartment. 12 month lease. Water and trash included. \$340/month. 947 4th street. No pets allowed. Call 348-7746 for appointment.

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LARGE 3 & 4 BEDROOM FOR 4-6 PEOPLE. FURNISHED, DISHWASHER, GARBAGE DISPOSAL, TRASH PAID. AVAILABLE FALL 97. 345-2363.

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VERY LARGE 3 BEDROOM FURNISHED APARTMENT. Can be leased for Summer or 97-98 school year (9 mo.) or both. Call 345-3664 after 10 a.m.

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ROOMS FOR RENT-Women only. Summer \$159/mo. 1997-98 sem. \$220/mo Utilities included. Large house, fully furnished. 1 block from union. Central A/C. Pat Novak (630) 789-3772.

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4 BEDROOM HOUSE. GOOD LOCATION. One Block north of campus. \$200/person 4 or 5 people. 10 mo. lease. No Pets. Call 345-6621.

3/5
UNFURNISHED HOUSES FOR 3 OR 5 clean, non-smoking females. Near campus. Year lease. 345-2564.

2/27
3 BEDROOM APARTMENT furnished. 2 blocks from campus. 10 month lease. Available Fall 97. 345-3401, 345-2263 or 348-8851.

2/27
AVAILABLE IN MAY-Apartments require one year lease, no pets, deposits and references. Two bedroom close to EIU-stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave, patio and private parking: \$460/month. Water and trash furnished. Two room studio apartment close to EIU-stove, refrigerator, microwave and private parking: \$300/month includes water and trash. One bedroom apartment-stove, refrigerator, private parking and patio: \$315/month. Two bedroom apartment-garage, screened patio, stove, refrigerator and gas grill: \$400/month includes water and trash. Call J.P. Furlong Co, Realtor 345-8600.

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3,4 AND 5 BEDROOM house for next school year. 348-0009

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SUMMER ONLY. One furnished 4 BDR Apt. One efficiency. Ph. 345-7225

3/14
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CHECK OUR HOUSING LIST! Apartments for 1, 2, or 3 tenants. Good locations, good prices. Lists available at Cebury 21 Wood R.E., 1512 A. Street, Jim Wood, broker.

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GIRLS, 3 bedroom furnished apartment available August. Excellent location. Excellent condition. Laundry. No pets. 345-7286.

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RENTAL PROPERTY. CHARLESTON: TWO BEDROOM UPSTAIRS APT. LEASE & DEPOSIT REQUIRED. PHONE 345-6011 AFTER 5:30 345-9462.

campus clips

A.C.E.I. Executive meeting tonight at 6 p.m. in the Union Walkway. ALPHA PHI OMEGA Communication Committee Meeting tonight at 6 p.m. in the APO office. Articles are due today and it will be a short meeting.

ARMY ROTC Leadership Lab today at 1500 hours in McAfee. Uniform: BDU's, gloves, jacket.

GREEK WEEK Steering Committee and Chapter Overall meeting tonight at 7 p.m. at the Lambda Chi Alpha House. All Chapter Reps must be present.

GREEK WEEK Rules and Games meeting tonight at 6:30 p.m. in the Greenup room. Chapter overalls must attend.

HEALTH EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER Peer Education Info meeting today at 10 a.m. in the Health Services Resource Center/Health Services. This is the last meeting regarding the peer education program.

IAEA Mandatory meeting tonight at 5:30 p.m. in FAA room 302. Discuss: Jr. High Workshops, Teacher Conference, Renaissance Fair.

IFC Executive meeting at 5:45 p.m. and regular meeting tonight at 6:30 p.m. in the Rathskeller.

LIFESTYLES meeting tonight at 6 p.m. in Lawson lobby.

MINORITY TODAY meeting tonight at 5:30 p.m. in the DEN Newsroom. All writers, photographers, must attend.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT Pianist Yang Yang's recital has been canceled.

NABJ meeting tonight at 7 p.m. in the Newsroom. All members must attend.

ORDER OF OMEGA meeting tonight at 8 p.m. in the Alpha Sigma Tau house.

PHYSICS DEPARTMENT Colloquium today at 2 p.m. in S 215. Dr. Bergman will speak on "Java + Physics Animations."

NEWMAN CATHOLIC CENTER Sacrament of Reconciliation today from 3:30-4:30 p.m. at the Newman Chapel, corner of 9th and Lincoln.

NEWMAN CATHOLIC CENTER Mass today at 12:05 p.m. at the Newman Chapel.

SEVENTH GENERATION meeting tonight at 6 p.m. in Coleman 220. Story Telling Night-bring a story to share! Visitors always welcome.

SIGMA RHO EPSILON meeting tonight at 6 p.m. in Coleman 221. All members must attend. Officers meeting at 5:30 p.m.

SIGMA GAMMA RHO week coming March 2-8. Stay tuned for further details...

SOMA meeting tonight at 7:30 p.m. in 313 Coleman Hall. We will discuss Silver Raven Wolf's book "To Ride A Silver Broomstick." All are welcome to attend.

UNITY GOSPEL FELLOWSHIP CHOIR Choir Rehearsal tonight at 6 p.m. sharp in the Fine Arts Building room 13.

BLACK GREEK COUNCIL social committee meeting today @ 7p.m. in Greek Court.

PLEASE NOTE: Campus Clips are run free of charge ONE DAY ONLY for any non-profit, campus organizational event. No parties or fundraising activities and events will be printed. All Clips should be submitted to The Daily Eastern News office by noon ONE BUSINESS DAY BEFORE DATE OF EVENT. Example: an event scheduled for Thursday should be submitted as a Campus Clip by NOON Wednesday. (Thursday is deadline for Friday, Saturday or Sunday events.) Clips submitted AFTER DEADLINE WILL NOT be published. No clips will be taken by phone. Any Clip that is illegible or contains conflicting information WILL NOT BE RUN. Clips may be edited for available space.

The Daily Eastern News

Classified Ad Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Under Classification of: _____

Expiration code (office use only) _____

Person accepting ad _____ Compositor _____

no. words/days _____ Amount due:\$ _____

Payment: ☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ Credit

Check number _____

Phone: _____ Student ☐ Yes ☐ No

Dates to run _____

Ad to read: _____

20 cents per word first day ad runs. 14 cents per word each consecutive day thereafter. Students with valid ID 15 cents per word first day. 10 cents per word each consecutive day. 15 word minimum. Student ads must be paid in advance.

DEADLINE 2 P.M. PREVIOUS DAY-NO EXCEPTIONS

The News reserves the right to edit or refuse ads considered libelous or in bad taste.

ACROSS

1 Ships' contents

7 Show appreciation

11 Setup punch

14 Tennessee's lizard

15 Ding-donger

16 Smelter's pile

17 Kew

20 Olden dagger

21 Woman's name that has another woman's name inside it

22 Tea

27 Hard fall?

28 Singer Lovett

29 Site of a 1976 uprising

31 Cake toppings

34 Bamako is its capital

35 Advanced deg.

38 Cockpit reading: Abbr.

39 Like the QE2

41 Work unit

42 Hardly a mark of distinction

43 Old pantry supply

44 Witt or Yamaguchi, e.g.

46 Yellow

48 Zippo

49 — salts

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53 South American plains

57 Where to wear a muumuu

58 Queue

64 Suffix with absorb

65 Skin-colored

66 Bloom in movies

67 Comic Louis

68 Tie

69 Babe Ruth's middle name

DOWN

1 "Smoke"

2 — Khan

3 Capek play

4 Diplomat who negotiated an 1853 land purchase

5 Upright

6 Comparatively reasonable

7 Greek letter

8 Actor Chaney

9 Fit

10 Cue

11 She played Nell in "Neil"

12 Stood

13 "John Brown's Body" poet

18 Six, in Seville

19 Court plea, informally

22 It starts "Sing, goddess, the wrath of Peleus' son..."

23 Full course

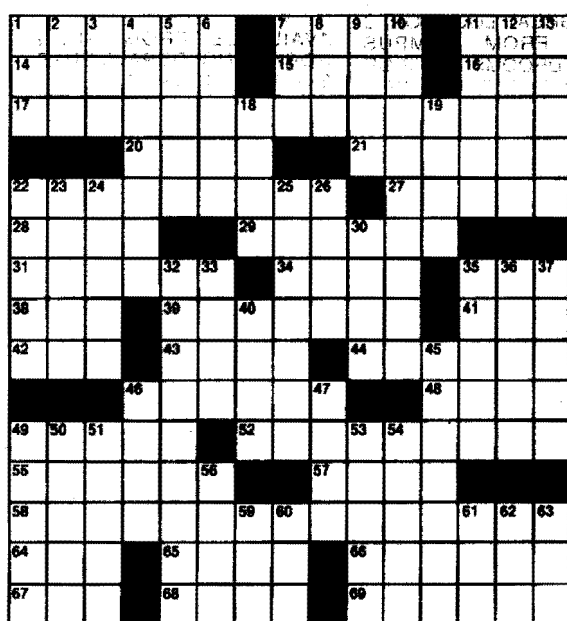
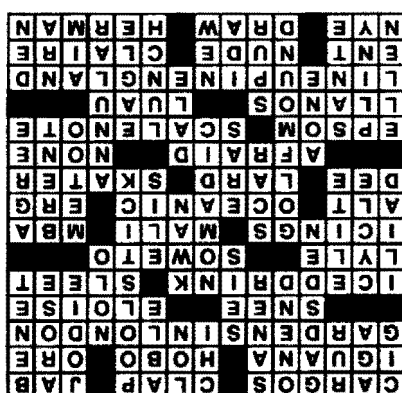
24 In crowd

25 Wandering

26 Actress Nancy

30 Crimson rivals

32 Tee



Puzzle by Wayne Robert Williams

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St. Louis sees minor changes from last year

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — The word used most often at St.

Louis Cardinals spring training camp has been "stability." Unlike last season, when there was a new coaching staff and nine new players, this year has seen relatively few changes.

Second baseman Delino DeShields is the most notable change. All 11 pitchers from last year's staff are back. The outfield is the same. And the infield, except for DeShields and the retired Ozzie Smith, remains intact.

"I'd say the guys are more

comfortable with each other, but we don't want them to be relaxed," manager Tony La Russa said Wednesday. "We don't want them out there yawning while they're doing drills. We want to always have an edge, to let guys know they're competing for jobs."

The Cardinals not only have most of their players back from last year's National League Central Division championship team, they also have plenty of experience.

The average age of the 25 players expected to be on the ro-

ster is 30.8 years.

That includes veteran pitchers Dennis Eckersley (42), Rick Honeycutt (42), Tony Fossas (39) and Danny Jackson (35), third baseman Gary Gaetti (38) and outfielder Willie McGee (38).

So is this the most experienced team La Russa has managed? "Absolutely not," he said. "What happens is, we've got five guys that we know will be on the ball club that have a lot of age."

When you've got three guys in their 40s, and then Willie and Gary in their upper 30s, people tend to think you're old.

"But what about the other 20? Those guys are in their prime. A majority of our club is prime age."]

Three more veterans also have a shot at making the club.

Outfielders Cory Snyder (34) and Andy Van Slyke (36) as well as infielder Steve Scarsone (30) are all non-roster invitees.

Eckersley is in his 22nd year in the major leagues, his second with St. Louis. To put that in perspective, rookie first baseman Dmitri Young was 1 year old when Eckersley broke in with Cleveland.

And outfielder Miguel Mejia wasn't even born.

Eckersley isn't quite ready to give in to the younger players, however.

"They know where to find me if they need something," he said.

"But I've got to worry about Dennis right now. I've got to worry about keeping myself in shape. It's not as easy as it used to be."

The Cardinals open their exhibition season on Friday against the New York Yankees. Rookie Brady Raggio will face Dwight Gooden.

Three pointer gives Michigan State win in Columbus

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Jason Klein's only shot of the second half, a 3-pointer with 47 seconds left, provided the winning basket as Michigan State beat Ohio State 67-65 Wednesday night.

The loss doomed Ohio State (10-14 overall, 5-10 in the Big Ten) to its fourth straight losing season — the first time that's happened in the school's 98 years of the sport.

Klein, who finished with 13 points, hit his big bucket after taking an assist pass from Thomas Kelley, who passed the ball out while driving the lane.

Antonio Smith later added a free throw, with Ohio State's Damon Stringer clos-

ing the scoring with a 50-foot 3-pointer at the final buzzer.

Ray Weathers led the Spartans (14-10 overall, 7-8 in the Big Ten) with 21 points, hitting 8-of-12 shots from the field including 5-of-8 3-pointers. Smith had 10 points and 10 rebounds and Kelley, who had five assists, also had 10 points.

The win assured Michigan State of a winning record, and improved the Spartans chances of a National Invitation Tournament bid.

Jason Singleton had 17 points and John Lumpkin had a career-high 16 for Ohio State, which has lost three in a row

and five of its last six. Stringer finished with 13 points.

The Spartans sprinted to a 13-2 lead at the outset and never trailed until Ohio State's Shaun Stonerook hit a 3-pointer from the top of the key with 7:06 left for a 58-57 advantage.

Louisville 72, UNC-Charlotte 71:

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Alex Sanders scored five points in a 13-0 run as No. 17 Louisville snapped North Carolina Charlotte's six-game winning streak with a 72-71 victory Wednesday night.

Sanders hit a short jumper and a 3-point-er from the corner as Louisville (22-6, 9-4

10. Wheat and B.J. Flynn each scored 16 points.

Sanders added 13 and Alvin Sims had 12 for Louisville, which shot 47 percent (24-of-51) from the field.

DeMarco Johnson topped North Carolina Charlotte with 14 points.

Downs had 13, Colson 12 and Shaw, Howard and Alexander Kuehl with 10 apiece.

The 49ers made 41 percent (27-of-66) of their shots, including 9-of-21 from 3-point range.

Johnson's 10-foot bank shot gave North Carolina Charlotte a 13-6 lead, its biggest of the game.

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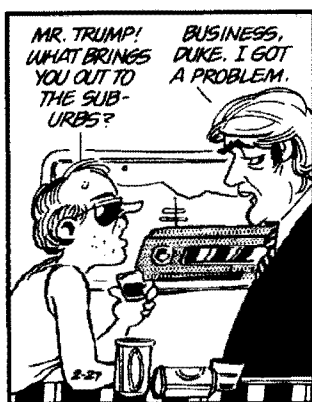
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Ohio Valley Conference final fours begin Friday

The final eight Ohio Valley Conference teams left in the men's and women's tournaments have a little break before resuming action in Nashville.

The teams had yesterday, today and tomorrow to prepare for their semifinal contests Friday.

First-round games were held on campus sites with the higher seed in each quarterfinal hosting the game, but the tournament now shifts to the Nashville Auditorium.

On the men's side, all four higher seeds won their games, as No. 1 Austin Peay, No. 2 Murray State, No. 3 Middle Tennessee and No. 4 Tennessee Tech will face off in the semis.

Southeast Missouri's women's team (the No. 6 seed) pulled off the only upset of the first round in the other tournament, sending host Austin Peay (the No. 3 seed) home. The Otahkians advanced to the second round along with No. 1 Eastern Kentucky, No. 2 Tennessee Tech and No. 4 Morehead State.

Both tournaments will hold their semifinal games Friday, with the women's teams playing the first and fourth games of the day and the men's teams playing the second and third.

The top-seeded Lady Colonels will kick off Friday's action against fourth-seeded Morehead

State at 1 p.m.

Eastern Kentucky knocked eighth-seeded Tennessee State Tuesday night 69-60 to advance to Nashville, and The Lady Eagles sent the Lady Panthers back to Charleston with a 72-67 win.

The men's teams will take the stage following the first women's game when Murray State plays Middle Tennessee at 3 p.m.

Murray State took a 13-point decision from Tennessee State (76-63) Tuesday night while Middle broke a two-game losing streak to SEMO's men with an 89-74 win.

Men's No.1 Austin Peay will take the court next when the

Governors meet Tennessee Tech at 7 p.m.

Austin Peay forward Bubba Wells exploded for 43 points (31 in the first half) in his team's 106-83 win over bottom seed Morehead State.

Tech got by Eastern Illinois Tuesday at a two-point win (83-81) that saw forward Curtis Wiggins miss most of the first half with back spasms only to come back in the second half to score 13 points including the game winner.

The women's tournament resumes to close out Friday's action as Tennessee Tech plays Middle Tennessee.

The Golden Eagellettes com-

pleted the first half of Tech's home sweep Tuesday night with a 72-61 win over No. 7 seed Murray State.

Middle Tennessee was the only team to win a road game in the first round as it went to Austin Peay and came away with a one-point win (60-59).

The semifinal winners will play the conference finals Saturday.

The men's championship game is scheduled for 1 p.m. and will be televised on ESPN.

The women's championship follows the men's and will be seen on tape delay Sunday on Fox SportsSouth.

- Staff report

FACTOR

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win the game. The route they took was the perimeter game.

The guard tandem of Hilary Swisher and Alison Osborn helped out on the victory with 22 and 21 points respectively. The Lady Eagles were 12 for 24 from the three-point area with Osborn going 5-of-11 from beyond the arc.

The other hot three-point shooter was forward Alisha Griffith who was 4-of-6 from three land, and scored all 12 of her points there.

"We wanted to provide help defensively to make

it appear we were double teaming her the whole game," Klein said. "We knew that would make it difficult to cut down the outside and that's what won them the game."

This is not the first time that Kieckbusch has had trouble against Eastern. Kieckbusch over 50 percent in all of the games but four, one of those being when she shot 4-of-9 from the field in the 65-57 loss to Eastern on Jan. 11.

"Eastern has done the best job in the conference guarding her," Gabriel said.

ASSAULT

from page 12

Akins closed out his nine-point scoring assault in the first half by connecting on 1-of-2 shots from the charity stripe to give Tech a 37-33 lead just before halftime.

Seniors Ryan Black and Chris Turner also did their share of contributing points, as both of the Tech starters scored 10 points in the victory.

Black ended up doing most of his damage from beyond the arc, connecting on two-of-four attempts.

Turner, however, made good on 6-of-7 free throw attempts for the majority of his points.

From the field, Turner connected on 2-of-8 shots from the field.

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Kentucky's Ron Mercer will enter NBA draft

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) — Intent on removing all distractions as Kentucky pursues a second straight NCAA title, Ron Mercer is giving up his last two years of eligibility to enter the NBA draft.

The 6-foot-7 sophomore forward, the leading scorer in the Southeastern Conference, is expected to be one of the top selections in the June draft.

"I have a team to take care of and I want that to be my main focus," Mercer said Wednesday in making his widely anticipated announcement. "That's why I'm

doing this now so I can put it behind me and focus on winning another championship." Kentucky coach Rick Pitino said Mercer was swayed by the NBA's high regard for him.

"If the NBA thinks he's top three in the draft, then he's ready," Pitino said. "They like the fact that he flies through the air with the greatest of ease."

Pitino likened Mercer's game to that of Detroit Pistons star Grant Hill.

"He's an extraordinary player and person," Pitino said of Mercer. "They (NBA teams)

don't always get players like that." Mercer, a finalist for player of the year awards, is averaging 18.1 points and 5.3 rebounds a game.

"Certainly Ron Mercer has been someone special for us the past two years," Pitino said. "He helped us win a championship last year. He's been a humble, hard-working player since the day I met him."

Mercer is the third player under Pitino to turn pro before completing his eligibility, joining Jamal Mashburn in 1993 and Antoine Walker in 1996.

"He's as good as Mashburn and Antoine," Pitino said. "Who's going to be the best? The NBA will find out. Not me. I'll never find out."

Mercer, of Nashville, Tenn., recently took out an insurance policy that would pay him \$500,000 in case of a career-ending injury this season.

Mercer's teammate, Derek Anderson, sustained a season-ending knee injury Jan. 18, and that influenced his decision.

"I looked into it after he went down and knew it could happen to anybody," Mercer said. "I

took it from here." He said he and his parents met with Pitino met Friday to discuss his options.

"It was going to be a family decision," Mercer said.

He said his mother, Birdie, wanted him to get his education.

"She told me to take some time out and think about it," Mercer said.

Mercer started in 12 of 36 games on Kentucky's national championship team last season, averaging eight points and 2.9 rebounds. He scored a season-high 20 points in the title game against Syracuse.

MERDA

from page 12

games. And the fans would still flock to Wrigley Field — they always do.

The fans are used to losing. It's nothing new.

McPhail and Lynch should keep one or two players, most likely Sammy Sosa and Ryne Sandberg, then trade away the rest.

Sosa has the best chance at being a franchise player for many years to come, so trading him away would do more harm than good.

On the other hand, Sandberg's production is down, being at the end of his career and they would not get much in return for him any-

way. Plus Sandberg could use his experience to help the younger players mature.

By cutting payroll and starting over, McPhail and Lynch have nothing to lose and all the more to gain. What's the worst that can happen? The team finishes in last place in the Central Division instead of second to last?

Adding a player here and a player there like they have done for so many years, obviously isn't the answer for the Cubs.

Then again, who's to say anyone will ever be able to find an answer to such a difficult problem.

Fortson may opt for the NBA

CINCINNATI (AP) — Danny Fortson has fouled out of five games and gotten five technical fouls for protesting calls. He goes to the foul line more than twice as often as anyone else on No. 9 Cincinnati.

Fouls are the only thing holding the All-America power forward back, and they might end up being the thing that sends him to the NBA a year early.

After sitting out roughly half of the Bearcats' 63-49 victory Tuesday night over Southern Miss, the junior forward hinted strongly that he'll leave for the NBA after the season because of the way officials are calling games.

"I guess they're trying to give me a sign: 'Get the hell out of here.' That's what the message is," Fortson said.

And that's almost certainly what he's going to do. Although Fortson won't declare his intentions until after Cincinnati is through with the NCAA tournament, he's not hiding his frustration with the way he's getting treated under the basket.

Teams either blanket him in a zone defense, designed to deny him the ball, or double-team him in man-to-man coverage.

He often resembles a pinball as he moves through the lane.

Fortson took only five shots Tuesday night, scored a season-low four points and fouled out with 1:05 left. One of the fouls was a technical for complaining about a call.

Fortson contends opponents are allowed to push him around, but he's whistled when he tries to gain advantage with his 6-foot-7, 260-pound

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Sports



CHAD MERDA
Staff writer

Still the same old storyline for the Cubs

With a new season comes new hope – and most likely, new disappointments.

After all, they are the Chicago Cubs.

This is the year that will either make or break the dynamic duo of General Manager Ed Lynch and CEO Andy McPhail. They were supposed to be the answer to the prayers of all the die hards across the country whose only wish is to see the Cubs in a World Series.

McPhail and Lynch's television campaign tried to win time with restless fans, proclaiming "We're working on it."

The problem is, their way of working on it isn't working at all.

Taking away the division championships in 1984 and 1989, the Cubs have not accomplished anything since their last National League pennant in 1945.

In the past, they have tried doing many different things to win, including signing free agents such as Andre Dawson, Randy Myers and Jaime Navarro. They made trades in which they acquired Luis Gonzalez, Scott Servais and Steve Buechele.

They have had five different managers in this decade.

All the movement within the organization and "quick fixes," as they have been called, have not been able to make them winners.

Maybe McPhail and Lynch should realize what they've tried obviously isn't going to work and come up with a different idea.

That idea would be to follow the example of the San Diego Padres a few years ago and the Pittsburgh Pirates more recently. That would be to trade away the superstars on the team and drastically cut the payroll. In effect, they would be starting over.

Right now it seems like the only option.

When the Padres made their moves, even trading away future Hall of Fame candidate Gary Sheffield, they kept one superstar in Tony Gwynn and in a few years managed to become title contenders.

Nobody knows what will become of the Pirates' attempt at the same.

Right now different sources have the Cubs' payroll between \$39 and 41 million, which is in the middle of the pack in comparison to the other teams. Predictions have it the Cubs will at best win 85 games in a weak Central Division.

So why not cut the payroll to \$15 million and totally rebuild the franchise? They probably would still be able to win 40 or 50

See MERDA page 11

Scoring assault dooms Panthers

By BRIAN LESTER
Sports editor

Eastern's basketball team knew Tennessee Tech had the potential to be a dangerous offensive threat.

After all, the Golden Eagles came into the game as the fourth best offense in the Ohio Valley Conference.

While the Panthers did have three players come away with double-digit performances – junior Rick Kaye's 23 points led the way – the Golden Eagles had five different players reach double digits in an 83-81 victory in the first round of the OVC tournament Tuesday night.

Eastern's other double-digit performances came from 19-point outbursts by both freshman Marc Polite and sophomore Chad Peckinpugh.

And while Tech's balanced scoring attack played a key role in the final outcome, Polite's 14 second-half points and Peckinpugh's ability to find the open man – he finished with 19 assists – kept the Panthers within reach of victory throughout the second half.

"It was a great tournament game," Tech head coach Frank Harrell said after Tuesday night's victory. "We are generally not in those types of games where the teams are scoring on nearly every possession. We just happened to get the last opportunity."

Senior center Lorenzo Coleman led the way for Tech by pouring in 26 points, and it was during the second half that he did the most damage since 20 of his points came during the second frame.

While Coleman's points were



CHET PIOTROWSKI JR./Photo editor

Eastern guard Chad Peckinpugh (No. 5) prepares to defend a Tennessee Tech player in the Panthers' 83-81 loss Tuesday in the first round of the Ohio Valley Conference tournament. Eastern finished up its initial season in the OVC with a 9-10 mark in conference play and a 12-15 mark overall.

to be expected since he is the third best scorer in the conference, his teammates got the job done as well.

One of those other players doing his part in helping Tech's cause was senior Curtis Wiggins.

After heading off to the training room less than two minutes into the game because of back spasms, Wiggins returned to rattle off all 13 of his points in the second half, including the game winning lay-in and free throw that put an end to a tightly played tournament game.

Panther head coach Rick Samuels was quick to give credit to Wiggins' play.

"He certainly did make a difference, but his replacement also played pretty well," Samuels said.

And it was the play of freshman Eric Akins, who came in to replace the injured Wiggins, that kept Tech in the contest.

Akins ended up tallying up 11 points in the contest and his points came at the right time, including four of them during a four-minute Panther shooting drought in the first half.

Akins' first points came on a tip-in that put Tech up by four at 11-7.

He then helped turn a five-point lead into a seven-point advantage at 18-11 four minutes later.

Akins then took the ball to the hoop and scored despite failing to make good on the three-point play.

The freshman's seventh and eighth points of the night gave Tech its biggest lead of the game at that point at 23-11.

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Despite loss, top scorer not a factor

Morehead's Amy Kieckbusch held to single digits for first time

By MATT WILSON
Staff writer

In the last regular season women's basketball meeting on Feb. 10 between Morehead State and Eastern, Morehead junior center Amy Kieckbusch lit it up for 24 points, five steals and six rebounds.

Tuesday night in the Panthers' 72-67 loss in the first round of the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament, Eastern held Kieckbusch to eight points.

"Coach Klein did a very nice job of defending Kieckbusch; every time we got it into her it was like there was a 6-foot-2 tepee around her," Morehead State head coach Janet Gabriel said. "We couldn't get it into her and when we did she couldn't do anything with the ball. What we ended up having to do was use her as a decoy to reverse the ball."

Panther head coach John Klein saw improvement from the last time the team guarded Kieckbusch.

"I thought our post players did a better job dead fronting her and we

had much better help from other players," he said.

This was the first time the OVC's leading scorer was held under double digits all year. Kieckbusch is not only the OVC's leading scorer, she also ranks fifth nationally in scoring.

Scoring is not the only way that Eastern shut down Kieckbusch. She is second in the OVC in steals, rebounds and field goal percentage. Tuesday night, Kieckbusch was 3 for 7 from the field, 2 for 3 from the foul line and had two steals.

"We surrounded her with help defense, however that gave them good looks at perimeter," Klein said. "It was sometimes very difficult to guard both of them."

Her averages up to this game were 24.2 points per game, 64 percent shooting from the field, 129 free throw attempts and 53 steals. Eastern kept her under her average in all those categories, and lost the game. With Eastern guarding Kieckbusch so well, the Golden Eagles had to go a different route to

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IKUYA KURATA/Staff Photographer

Lady Panther junior guard Nora Hendrix drives to the basket in Saturday's victory over Southeast Missouri. The Panthers season came to an end with a 72-67 loss to Morehead State in the first round of the Ohio Valley Conference tournament on Tuesday.